

DELEGATE MORGAN: Mr. Chairman, I do not want this Committee of the Whole to be under the impression that all delegates from Montgomery County are in favor of this amendment.

Now it seems to me, there are a lot of people that moved into Montgomery County from other places. They moved into Montgomery because Montgomery County was what it was. It had a lot of open spaces, lot of countryside; it is a beautiful county. It actually costs the people in the county area, Silver Spring, Bethesda, Chevy Chase — a guy with a \$30,000 house, assessed at \$30,000, about \$39 a year to support the farm assessment in Montgomery County. I think that \$39 a year is worth it to him.

If he wants a different kind of environment, I think maybe he better move someplace else. But in my opinion, the \$39 a year he pays for the farm assessment in Montgomery County is well worth it. I hope this amendment is defeated.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are you ready for the question?

(Call for the question.)

The Clerk will ring the quorum bell.

The question arises on adoption of Amendment No. 3. A vote Aye is a vote in favor of the amendment; a vote No is a vote against. Cast your votes.

Has every Delegate voted? Does any Delegate desire to change his vote?

(There was no response.)

The Clerk will record the vote.

There being 23 votes in the affirmative and 100 in the negative, the motion fails. The amendment is rejected.

Pages will please distribute Amendment B. Amendment B will be Amendment No. 4. The Clerk will read the amendment.

READING CLERK: Amendment No. 4 to Committee Recommendation SF-3 by Delegates Hanson and B. Miller: On page 2, section 8.02; Assessments, in line 7 strike out the word "shall" and insert in lieu thereof the word "may".

THE CHAIRMAN: Amendment No. 4 is proposed by Delegate Hanson, seconded by Delegate Beatrice Miller.

The Chair recognizes Delegate Hanson.

DELEGATE HANSON: Mr. Chairman, I think the intention of this amendment is clear. It is to make it possible for the legislature in light of the decision of this Con-

vention just made to have as much flexibility as can be obtained with retention of the clause, changing the clause from a mandatory one to a permissive one.

I see no need to prolong the debate on this. We just want to give the Convention one last chance to redeem its honor on this problem.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Case.

DELEGATE CASE: Delegate Hanson, I am going to give you that chance in a very few minutes now.

May I say, Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen of the Committee, that this amendment really is a rehash of what we have just been through. To change the word "shall" to "may" is exactly the same as taking out the last clause in the Committee Recommendation. There is absolutely no difference. As Delegate Hanson said in his presentation of the former amendment, what it meant in effect was the General Assembly may make this assessment if it chooses to do so. What we have here is the word "may" inserted for "shall", merely puts that in writing. So what he originally said could be done is now merely put in writing. It is exactly the same point, has been voted on before.

I urge you to vote the same as you did last time.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are you ready for the question?

(Call for the question.)

The Clerk will ring the quorum bell.

The question arises on adoption of Amendment No. 4. A vote Aye is a vote in favor of the amendment; a vote No is a vote against. Cast your votes.

Have all delegates voted? Does any delegate desire to change his vote?

(There was no response.)

The Clerk will record the vote.

There being 22 votes in the affirmative and 96 in the negative, the motion fails and the amendment is rejected.

Are there any other amendments to section 8.02?

The Chair hears none.

For what purpose does Delegate Churchill Murray rise?

DELEGATE E. C. MURRAY: To try to lighten the situation momentarily. It will only take a moment and it is worth doing.